

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Please replace paragraph [0004] of the originally filed patent application with the following rewritten paragraph:

Trampolines are often subject to substantial wear and tear. In particular, the mat of a trampoline is generally subject to the most wear. Thus, the mat of a trampoline is often the first component of the trampoline to fail. The mat can be subject to wear and tear from users and items placed on the trampoline. For instance, a user's shoes, toys, clothing, and the like can potentially damage the mat. In addition, weather conditions such as temperature and UV light significantly affect the durability of trampoline mats used outdoors.

Please replace paragraph [0005] of the originally filed patent application with the following rewritten paragraph:

A trampoline mat is usually constructed as a single piece; therefore, when one portion fails, the entire mat fails. To create a bouncing surface, the mat is created such that a force applied to the center of the mat is transferred radially to the springs. The springs exert a force on the mat to keep the mat suspended above the ground, for example. Consequently, when a tear or hole is made in the mat, the tear or hole tends to expand quickly. If the damage is not repaired the entire mat may fail. For the forgoing reasons, enhancing the durability of the trampoline mat is an effective mechanism to enhance the durability of the trampoline.

Please replace paragraph [0007] of the originally filed patent application with the following rewritten paragraph:

Sewing a stitch into the mat creates defined areas of stress in the mat. Over time, the areas of higher stress are more likely to fail, which reduces the durability of the mat. Furthermore, the localized attachment ~~sites~~ ^{sites} for springs creates bias in the weave of the bed fabric. The bias is created in the fabric around each spring attachment site. The fabric stretches non-uniformly to transfer the resilient force across the mat. The bias force absorbed by the fabric reduces the bounce and distributes a non-uniform force across the mat.

Please replace paragraph [0010] of the originally filed patent application with the following rewritten paragraph:

Finally, the stitching methods used to make existing trampoline mats, increases the cost of a trampoline because of the steps that are required to construct them. For instance, many trampolines are manufactured by hand thus requiring intensive labor to manufacture the mat. In addition, the current processes for manufacturing trampoline mats cannot produce a mat with a consistent size and shape. For example, the attachment site for springs can be slightly off in various locations on the mat, which increases stress and the likelihood that the mat will fail.

Please replace paragraph [0027] of the originally filed patent application with the following rewritten paragraph:

Exemplary embodiments of the present invention relate to an improved trampoline mat 10. As shown in Figure 1, the trampoline mat 10 includes a flexible bed 12 and a filament 14 extending about the periphery of flexible bed 12. In an exemplary embodiment, flexible bed 12 and filament 14 are attached to a trampoline frame 15 using a plurality of coil springs 16.